



Pathways Taskforce

October 24, 2014

**Indiana Government Center South
Conference Room 1
Public Entrance 302 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Sarah Ancel, Betsy Delgado, Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann, Matt Fleck, JR Gaylor, Marie Mackintosh, Amy Marsh, SPI Glenda Ritz, Calvin Thomas

Members Not Present: Mike Barnes, Rep. Christina Hale, Gary Hobbs, Dan Waldrop, Lynne Weisenbach

Staff Present: Nate Klinck

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Taskforce Chair, Lt. Governor Ellspermann called the meeting to order at 10:03am and welcomed members in attendance. She asked Mr. Klinck to conduct a roll call, and following the roll call, recognized that a quorum of members was present.

II. Review and Approval of September 30, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Taskforce members reviewed minutes from the September 30th meeting. Following review, Mr. Thomas motioned approval of the minutes; Mr. Fleck seconded the motion; motion carried.

III. Taskforce Updates

- **Return-to-Complete Program**

Sarah Ancel, from the Commission for Higher Education, provided the taskforce with an update on the return to complete program that CHE is in the midst of planning. Ms. Ancel reported that CHE had recently secured college access grant funding from the federal government to support the initiative. CHE is currently working with higher education institutions to identify students that the program would target, and Ms. Ancel reported that the structure of the program would rely upon the institutions to initially identify prospective students and send communications to those students. Ms. Ancel also reported that CHE is working on draft legislation that would be presented to the General Assembly. The legislation would potentially fund the program, and would focus on providing some form of financial incentive for individuals to return to complete an associate or bachelor degree or a high quality workforce credential

Taskforce members discussed the importance of ensuring that the process includes the identification of the barriers that a number of the returning students may face and a plan for providing those wraparound services and career counseling to the students. The taskforce discussed the possibility of WorkOne offices playing a key role in the program, potentially as a resource for career counseling and the provision of wraparound, “barrier busting” services. The taskforce also discussed the importance of engaging employers in the program, listening to students, and ensuring that financial aid was available for those returning students. Ms. Ancel shared that those are components of the work that CHE is putting into the development of the program, and thanked taskforce members for their input.

- **Work-and-Learn Models**

Lucy Houchin, from Thomas P. Miller and Associates, reported to the taskforce on work that she is performing on behalf of the Career Council. Ms. Houchin provided the taskforce with an overview of nine models of work-and-learn opportunities that are offered to students and workers in some form throughout Indiana. The models that Ms. Houchin identified were:

- Internships;
- Externships;
- Cooperative Education;
- On-the-job Training;
- Clinical Training;
- Pre-Apprenticeships;
- Apprenticeships;
- Federal Work Study; and
- School-Based Learning.

For each of the models identified, Ms. Houchin provided the taskforce with a basic description and objective, who the primary participants are, whether compensation and academic were generally provided, the typical grade levels of participants, and the typical duration.

Throughout discussion, the taskforce discussed how the Works Councils were engaged in the promotion and expansion of these models. Additionally, they discussed the importance of continuing to engage secondary and postsecondary education to think about how to integrate the opportunities into coursework and curriculum.

Following Ms. Houchin’s report, Amanda Stanley from CHE provided the taskforce with an update on the EARN program. Ms. Stanley reported to the taskforce that the EARN program is focused on funding 50% of the costs of internships that are provided to income-eligible, full-time postsecondary students in Indiana. Ms. Stanley shared that there has been a 50% increase in participation in EARN since its inception in the Summer of 2013. She reported that a significant amount of funds remains in the program, and that the intention is to submit a request to the General Assembly to continue funding the program over the next biennium.

IV. Next Steps

Prior to adjournment, the taskforce briefly discussed the next steps it would like to take. It agreed that the following topics would form the content of future meetings:

- Career Counseling – what are the key challenges; how does technology figure in; what professional development opportunities are there?

- Sector/Occupational/Pathway analysis and identification – what employment opportunities are there currently, and what will be prevalent in the future? How do we develop pathways across the entire spectrum (K12, post-secondary, workforce) to those occupations?

V. Adjournment

Lt. Governor Ellspermann adjourned the meeting at 11:32am.